(i) Whether it has noted that during the last 3 years the actual receipts of the Forest Department fell far short of the budget estimates ;

(ii) Whether it has noted that the explanation generally given for the fall in receipts is paucity of demand for timber ; and

(iii) Whether the unprecedented floods towards the close of the year 1099 did in any way affect the sale of timber by the Forest Department in 1099?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON (*Conservator of Forests*).

The answers to parts (i), (ii) and (iii) are in the affirmative.

Sale of Timber.

Mr. C. A OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

51. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the receipts of the Forest Department by sale of timber and other forest produce in Karkadagam in the years 1097, 1098 and 1099?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON (*Conservator of Forests*).

A statement giving the information asked for is laid on the table. (*Vide Appendix 1.*)

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

Do these figures given in Appendix I show the the sales that actually took place in the Karkadagam of 1097, 1098 and 1099 ?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON (*Conservator of Forests*).

No.

Extractions from the Forests.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

52. Will the Government be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing, for the last ten years, the extractions from the Cochin Forests under (i) teak, (ii) rose-wood, (iii) jungle-wood and (iv) cart-loads of fuel ?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON (*Conservator of Forests*).

A statement containing the information asked for is laid on the table. (*Appendix 2*)

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

Is the fall under extractions in teak and rose-wood, from 1093 onwards, due to the paucity of demand for timber?

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Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON (*Conservator of Forests*).

Yes.

Revenues of the Forest and Tramway Departments.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*)

53. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing (i) the net earnings from the Forest Department during the last decade, and ii) the net loss caused by the working of the Tramway Department during the last decade?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON (*Conservator of Forests*).

A statement giving the information called for is laid on the table. (*Vide Appendix 3.*)

Tramway.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

54. Will the Government be pleased to state whether, in spite of the heavy losses suffered by the Government on account of the Tramway Department, the Government intends :—

i. To undertake a regular scheme of overhaul of the Tramway trucks, vehicles, engines, etc; and

ii. To invest further amounts in the enterprise?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON (*Conservator of Forests*).

The answers to parts (i) and (ii) are in the affirmative.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

Do the Government intend to spend money in the face of the answer that the paucity of demand for timber has continued from 1093 to 1099?

Mr. K. GOVINDA MENON (*Conservator of Forests*).

My reply, during the course of the general discussion on the budget, will give him the necessary answer.

Contracts in the Abkari Department.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

55. Will the Government be pleased to state whether it has noted that in some departments in the State, especially the Abkari Department, large contracts were being entrusted to foreigners, very often

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